

Griff May Complete Team With Bush League Players—Baker Willing to Fight

GRIFFS MAY HAVE MINOR LEAGUERS

Plans Under Way to Suspend Class AA Circuits and Take Over Stars.

OLD LEAGUE TO GET MOST

Coming Meeting of Majors in New York Will Complete Arrangements.

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.

Washington fans may be offered the sight of Class AA players cavorting at Georgia avenue next summer, if many of the Griffins adhere to their promises not to sign 1917 contracts until permitted by Dave Fultz.

Plans are now under way to have at least two Class AA organizations, the International League and the American Association, to suspend for one year, pending a settlement of present baseball difficulties. All arrangements will be completed when the big leagues hold their schedule meeting in New York week after next.

Manager Griffith will represent the Washington club at the coming meeting, and will agree to take over certain players already signed by the Richmond and Rochester clubs, of the International League, providing Ed Barrow's clubs suspend.

Many for Old League.

Some sixty or seventy of the best players in the Class AA circuits are available for the big league clubs. They will be apportioned among those teams needing them most. Because of the fact that the American League outfits are in better condition to oppose the striking players, the National League clubs will get most of these minor league stars.

Manager Griffith now has eleven men signed for 1917. If he obtains no more signatures, he will have to take about ten minor leaguers to fill out his ball club for a season on the diamond.

Confie Mack has only three players now signed. The Red Sox have about fifteen. So have the Browns and Tigers. The other American League clubs could start training now.

Giants in Good Shape.

In the National League the Giants are in good shape, having only two or three men left out in the cold. The Cubs are also in good condition, but almost every other club in the Tenor circuit is hard hit by the rebellious athletes. Most of the minor league players will have to go to the National League.

While the magnates are pool-pooling all talk of a strike, nevertheless they are working hard to be prepared for one. They do not intend to be caught asleep at the switch. If any large number of players walk out, their places will immediately be filled, and if the strikers then care to surrender, they will be given places in the minors.

Discuss World's Series.

At the coming meeting the 1917 world's series is sure to be discussed. If the National League is too weak, through defections of its players, the title games may not be played at all next October. If the strike fizzles out, as it promises, then Ban Johnson wants his way.

The board of the American League is out for reformation all along the line, including the world's series. He would lower the admission prices and cut the money allotments to the players down quite a notch.

Many changes in playing rules will also be discussed, but few will be adopted. It is generally believed that the game will not be improved much at this time.

Hal Chase in Line.

As a sample of the fair treatment of players, Hal Chase has been granted a two-year contract for \$8,000, the salary he drew as a Federal Leaguer. Chase played great ball for Cincinnati last season, leading all first basemen and topping the league at the bat. Garry Herrmann, president of the Reds, declined to sign down a player who had done his best, even though his salary was high, but tendered him a two-year contract, which Hal promptly signed.

Chase is not a member of the players' fraternity. No Federal Leaguer was allowed to join Fultz's organization.

Scott Had no Pledge.

Everett Scott, the Red Sox shortstop, who has signed for 1917, while a member of the players' fraternity, was not a signer of the pledge to hold out this spring, according to Fultz.

"Between 275 and 300 players in the National and American leagues signed the pledge last season not to sign contracts until we get our concessions," says Fultz, "and of this number the magnates have been able to show us only three cases where players violated their pledges. Sallee, of the Giants; Stanage, of Detroit; and Prendergast, of the Cubs. Everett Scott, who has signed with the Red Sox, belongs to the fraternity, but he gave us no pledge. Is there any better proof of the loyalty of the players than the fact that, despite pressure, only 1 per cent has proved to be disloyal to their organization?"

Twombly Satisfied.

George Twombly, the Baltimore outfielder sold to the Braves, has signed his contract, being satisfied with its terms. This argues for the probable signing of Sam Crane by the Washington club.

Carl Mays, the Red Sox underhand pitcher, is holding out for a raise of \$1,000. He got this amount last season, and believes himself entitled to it again. Frazee doesn't.

LEONARD IN RING.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Benny Leonard, challenger for the lightweight title, tonight meets Frankie Callahan in a ten-round bout which should be a stunner.

BOB FOLWELL MAY YET COACH ELEVEN

Committee Rescinds Action and Now He "Is Acceptable" as Leader.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 1.—Robert C. Folwell "is acceptable" today as a coach of the Pennsylvania varsity football squad. Monday he was "not acceptable."

Yielding to a pressure from undergraduates and alumni from many sides, the faculty committee rescinded its action in barring Folwell, Penn's "miracle man of the gridiron," from all consideration as the 1917 coach. The season consumed three hours, and Folwell spoke for thirty-five minutes to the committee before leaving for his home.

Today there is joy in West Philadelphia, for the undergraduates believe that Folwell will surely be named to coach the eleven next fall.

Dr. Goodspeed's Statement.

Following the meeting, the following brief announcement was made by Dr. Arthur W. Goodspeed:

"At a meeting of the university committee on athletics at which various members were represented, Folwell being present, it was voted that Folwell's name be restored to the list of the tentatively approved candidates for next year's football coach."

Three of the five committee members admitted today that they would vote to retain Folwell as coach, and the other two said that they "favor" him.

The procedure to be followed to keep Folwell at Penn is this: He must be chosen by the football committee. Wharton Sinkler, the chairman, may call a meeting any time he chooses. The matter is then sent to the board of directors of the athletic committee for their approval.

This board meets next Tuesday afternoon. If their approval is forthcoming, then the appointment is sent to the faculty athletic committee for the final ratification, which makes Folwell's reappointment a fact.

The approval of the faculty committee means that Folwell has vindicated himself with the university authorities.

Looks Like Himself.

When Bob came out after having his interview yesterday he appeared more like himself than at any time during the muddle. Bob could not say anything, but his old-time smile was fast returning, and when Capt. Melme Miller and Lud Wray, the hard-fighting center, who has been playing for Folwell with all his might, hurried the famous football man away from the crowd, Folwell seemed more like the man who was on Franklin Field every afternoon during the past season with the football players.

Later, Folwell did say that he was going away and lose himself for a few days in the country, where he can forget the present unpleasantness. Bob has been under a great strain and he needs the change. After the meeting Bob went to Lansdowne, and he said it was his intention to get away from everybody after that.

WHY YALE DECLINED

California Trip Too Long to Be Advisable, Is Word.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Feb. 1.—Prof. Robert N. Corwin, president of the Yale Athletic Association, today stated that Yale had not declined to meet the University of Oregon, and that, in fact, no negotiations for a game between Yale and the Western team have ever been entered into.

"Yale simply declined the invitation extended last fall to meet the champion Western team at Pasadena, the invitation which the University of Pennsylvania accepted, finally. It would have been out of the question for us to have made the trip, although we should have liked to have done so. We do not want our teams to take trips which consume so much time, and we are trying to keep it so that there will be but one out of town game on the schedule each year."

"That is the only reason for declining a game, and as Oregon was the champion, it might look as though we refused to play that eleven. But that is not the case, the simply turned down the proposition to go West."

Prof. Corwin also announced that games with the Army eleven would soon be arranged.

SHIFTS A. A. OFFICES

President Hickey Now Has His Desk in Louisville, Ky.

The headquarters of the American Association, which for the last seven years has been maintained in Chicago, was moved to Louisville, Ky., yesterday. Previously the executive offices were located in Milwaukee. Thomas J. Hickey, the new president of the association, plans to close up his affairs in the Windy City before the end of the week.

"In view of the fact that Chicago is not represented in the association," President Hickey said recently, explaining the change, "the club owners thought that it would be advantageous to move our headquarters to an American Association city. The plan, I think, will get better results for the league."

BOXING IN DANGER

Governor Whitman Would End It, But Some Oppose Him.

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 1.—Governor Whitman is preparing a special message to the legislature asking that boxing be abolished in New York State. Leaders in the legislature are at a loss just what to do, but they are expected to string along with the governor. The special message will allow boxing conducted only by clubs or associations incorporated for five years or more.

Many members of the legislature, however, believe that the present commission should be abolished and new members appointed, instructed to carry out the law to the letter.

ATHLETICS PAY

Football and Baseball Show Best at Penn State in 1916.

STATE COLLEGE, Pa., Feb. 1.—Athletics have been profitable at Penn State during the last year. A financial statement issued today by R. H. Smith, graduate manager of athletics, shows a gain of \$3,939.45 for the year 1915-16.

Football and baseball were the money-making branches of major sports. The track account shows a deficit of less than \$300. The total income from all sports was \$36,147.76, and the expense was \$32,208.31.

Of these amounts, football brought in \$21,929.60, and entailed an expenditure of \$17,882.40. Baseball netted a profit of more than \$1,100. The Athletic Association treasury has a surplus of \$10,000.

HAS A REMARKABLE WRESTLING RECORD

Olin, Who Meets Link at Lyceum Tonight, Has Won More Than 100 Matches.

When John Olin takes the mat against Shad Link at the Lyceum tonight Washington wrestling fans will see a grappler who ranks among the topmost heavyweight performers of the world. While he is expected to throw Link, who hails from Baltimore, the latter is capable of giving him a worthy battle, as is apparent from his record against many famous matmen.

Wins Many Bout.

Since Olin turned professional, after winning the world's amateur championship in 1912, he has won more than 100 matches, and boasts victories over many of the world's topnotchers. Perhaps his greatest achievement was the gaining of a decision over Joe Stecher, the Nebraska wonder, at Springfield, Mass., during last December.

Withstands Scissors.

Stecher squeezed Olin for twenty-seven minutes in the vicelike scissors hold, which has made him famous, but the former amateur title holder successfully withstood it. He was given the decision over Stecher after two hours and fifty-seven minutes of wrestling.

In another match tonight Hjalmar Lundin, Swedish champion, who has given Frank Gotch a number of tough battles, takes on John Herpule, the Eastern giant. As a preliminary, Johnny Cunningham will wrestle Billy Joe Turner's bear, for fifteen minutes. The wrestling will begin at 8:15 o'clock.

TIGERS WILL APPEAR

Princeton Enters Relay Team in Baltimore's Big Meet.

That Princeton University will send a mile relay team to the Fifth Regiment-Johns Hopkins games at the Baltimore armory February 24 was announced yesterday by Graduate Manager Henry E. Corner, of the Hopkins Athletic Association. An opponent for the Tiger outfit has not yet been secured, but it is a safe bet that some one of the more prominent colleges will accept the challenge.

Princeton applied for membership in the South Atlantic Intercollegiate Association some time ago, and was admitted, but when the schedules of the association were announced for the spring, the Tigers found that they could not get to enough meets to make the affiliation worth while for this year, and therefore withdrew. It is expected, however, that they will join the league next winter and participate in all the affairs of the organization.

DRAW DISTINCT LINE

Eastern Tennis Players Oppose Amateur Rule of West.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—A distinct line between East and West, as represented in membership in the United States National Lawn Tennis Association, was drawn today, following a statement given out by a group of players headed by Robert D. Wrenn, former national champion.

The statement, which pleads for support of the proposed new amateur rule, is signed entirely by Eastern men, with the exception of one player, the State of Oregon. Not one name is listed from California, the State where star tennis players are as thick as oranges.

Among the signers are Carl H. Behr, Fred T. Frolinhuysen, Floyd C. Inman, E. P. Larned, Robert Leroy, Theodore Roosevelt Pell and others of national reputation. They point out that the sale of tennis goods by players is uncalled for and unwarranted.

"Sport for sport's sake," they plead.

DARCY TO BEGIN WORK.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Les Darcy, the Australian champion middleweight, matched to meet Al McCoy here March 5, will arrive in the metropolis Sunday, and immediately begin training, according to his manager E. Timothy O'Sullivan.

LAST NIGHT'S CRACKS.

McCarthy, Sanitary Grocery.....152
Matillon, Postal Savings.....145
Kupper, Southern.....138
Kouns, Crop-Weather.....133
Noack, Columbia.....132
Campbell, Southern.....132
Watson, Dixie A. C.....131
Gordon, Auditors.....129
Moe Raser, George C. Whitting.....129
Wolstenholme, Freemans.....129
Hogan, Coast Bureau.....127
Milt Baer, George C. Whitting.....126
Hinton, Schlitz.....126
Kolson, West End.....126
Krause, Royale.....125
M. Jackson, King's Palace.....125

THREAT OF STRIKE HALTS CLUB'S SALE

Syndicates Seeking Cardinals Quit Field When Skies Become Gloomy.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 1.—Whatever chance there was during the early winter for a change of ownership in the local National League club, it has been dissipated of late by the menacing attitude of the threatened players' strike. One syndicate dropped out when R. L. Hedges departed for Hawaii, while still another, composed of younger St. Louisans, has finally abandoned the proposition. Just now, no one is bidding for the club.

There were those who thought that Miller James Huggins fled away to Cincinnati to rib up a syndicate to take over the franchise and players. However, Huggins is too wise for such rash action, although his absence from the scene of battle at this time is really hard to explain.

It was, furthermore, the popular belief that Mrs. Helene Britton would not remain permanently in the presidential chair. This, too, has proved false. Mrs. Britton is daily at her desk, and has replaced Geneth Moon, who was a woman secretary, a move that ends to dispel the belief Mrs. Britton contemplates anything but a lengthy term as president.

Incidentally, Mrs. Britton has some trying problems to untangle. What with the threatened strike, the lowly position of her club and the utter failure of Miller Huggins to perpetrate a trade, the duties of the Cardinal chief executive are such as to excite the envy of none. But Mrs. Britton has gone at the herculean task unflinchingly. She proposes to see the task through, regardless of consequences.

Only two Cardinal players are signed. If a strike comes Huggins will be utterly unable to muster a quorum. That means a "dark house" at Vandeventer and Natural Bridge road.

BOB THAYER'S Sporting Gossip

It'll take a lot of fish to bring in that \$40,000 for Darcy and McCoy.

There hasn't been any wild rush on the part of Dave Fultz to obtain a minor league franchise in the interests of a committee of the fraternity members. Indeed, Dave hasn't even admitted reading Secretary Farrell's offer. Farrell says one season's experience would convince the big leaguers of the utter impossibility of becoming wealthy as a bush league mogul. The average player is perfectly satisfied to collect his salary and let the magnates worry about finding the money due on the 1st and 15th.

"From Player to Ranchman to Magistrate, or the Life of C. C. Griffith," is the latest best-seller.

Manager Griffith's confidence in the Capital is shown by his willingness to increase his investments in the Washington baseball club. Despite hostility in some quarters, the Old Fox always has maintained that Washington is a wonderful baseball city. Rumors of shifting the franchise to Baltimore, Brooklyn, Pittsburgh or Toronto have always brought smiles to his face. He claims the Capital to be better than any of these cities mentioned. Griff will soon have some money to use, and prepare to hear of certain stockholders selling out to him, for he wants eventually to control the destinies of the Washington club.

Mike Martin, mayor of Cherrydale, is rehearsing some first-class sentences for smoker at Clarendon, Va., Monday night.

Many unsavory details are being unearthed in the hearing of the bribery charges against Fred Wenck, New York State's chairman of the boxing commission, and Governor Whitman may ask that the ring game be abolished in the Empire State. That is hardly fair. Conducting boxing under a commission has been successful in Wisconsin because of the caliber of the commissioners. Rules are observed rigidly and few complaints have been made. In New York, on the other hand, the commissioners have not acted as have those in Wisconsin, and all kinds of mistakes have been made. The game has suffered accordingly. Governor Whitman should abolish the commissioners, but keep a commission.

It won't do "Rip" Williams any good to go to Baltimore. It is the same distance to second base in the International League.

And they have the temerity to say "we are becoming soft." Looking over the list of casualties in an Irish-American hockey club battle on the ice Tuesday night in the big town, we note the following penalties, with reasons attached: Duffene, throwing stick; Abrahams, slashing; Sequin, slashing; Powers, fighting; Ridout, roughing; Cleary, fighting; Young, tripping. There certainly couldn't have been much "handshaking and lollypop stuff" in that hockey contest. Wish we'd been there, at that. Don't you?

BOOSTS MACKMAN

Colorado Writer Says Fred Ley Should Prove a Star.

R. S. Edmonds, of Boulder, Col., writes Philadelphia friends to hand out some praise to Fred W. Ley, a native of Boulder, who will be tried in Connie Mack's outfield next spring. "Without a doubt, Ley is the fastest man I have ever seen," says Mr. Edmonds.

"He is a 10-second man every day in the week, and the way he tears around the paths is astonishing. He ought to make one of the greatest baserunners in the game. He is also a hard hitter, swift thrower, and good fielder."

"I know that every man tried in the major leagues doesn't make good, but I feel that an able baseball developer like Connie Mack is sure to make a winner out of him."

JOHN ONE OF MANY VAETH DUCKPINNERS

Grand Central Expert and Brothers Took Part in Inter-Family Matches.

John L. Vaeth, who is considered quite a duckpin bowler, is not the only member of the Vaeth family, which hails from Baltimore, that can wallop the headpin. Johnny has six brothers who bowl and another who doesn't.

They range in age from thirty-five, which is the age of George, to ten, which is the age of Sylvester. Sylvester hasn't attained an exceptional degree of skill but is learning fast.

Johnny Third in Line.

Joseph is the second in line to George, then comes John, Frank, James, Edward, and Sylvester. Before John came to Washington to take over the management of the Grand Central, the Vaeths took part in inter-family matches now and then with the Powers boys. The Powers were once asked here for their amateur baseball playing.

Edward and James Vaeth are all-round athletes. Both attended Loyola College, in Baltimore, and played on the baseball, football, and basketball teams.

Quite a Family.

The Vaeth family comprises no small part of the population of Baltimore. Before Johnny left the Monumental City there were eight boys and three girls.

Several families here boast enough bowlers to compose a quint. It would be an excellent idea to stage a match with one of these and the Vaeths opposing.

"We have a standing challenge," says John C.

WHELAN UNDER KNIFE

Georgetown End Goes to Hospital for Operation Today.

Tommy Whelan, Georgetown's crack end, enters Georgetown Hospital today, and will undergo a slight operation. Whelan is expected to be out in ten days, no trouble being expected to follow the operation.

Whelan played wonderful football for the Blue and Gray last fall, and was one of the stars of the game on the Hilltop. It is said he is a baseball player of exceptional merit, and plays at first base.

The operation is expected to inconvenience the player in no way for baseball this season.

Charles Cox, Georgetown's graduate manager, is also confined to the hospital. Cox is well on the way to recovery, and is expected to be out in ten days or so. He was stricken with pneumonia following an operation one month ago today.

The coming Georgetown-George Washington basketball game probably will be played in Ryan gymnasium. Efforts to obtain a floor have been of no avail on account of the expense.

WHERE THEY ROLL.

District—Belmonts vs. Good Fellows, at Deckman's; Resolves vs. Continentals, at Royal.

National Capital—G. P. O. vs. Grand Central, at Palace.

Masonic—Pentalpha vs. Harmony, Federal vs. New Jerusalem, Lebanon vs. King David, at Royal.

Commercial—Woodward & Lothrop vs. Judd & Detweiler, at Palace.

Agricultural—Interbureau—Forest Service vs. Solicitors, at Casino.

Postoffice—Substitutes vs. Independents, Equipment vs. Old Station F, at Postoffice.

Navy Yard—Eight vs. Foundry, at Capitol Hill.

Bankers—Bank of Washington vs. Union Trust, at Casino.

Georgetown—Commercial—Terminal vs. Frate, at Georgetown.

Capitol Hill—Germanias vs. Southland, at Capitol Hill.

Bureau of Printing and Engraving vs. Cubes, at Rathskeller.

Southeast—Midnight Crew vs. Steel Plant, at Southeast.

Knights of Columbus—Trinidad vs. Marquette, Genoa vs. Pinta, at National Capital.

Academy—New York Life vs. Washington Railway A. A., at Arcade.

Terminal R. R. Y. M. C. A.—South-east vs. Shops, at Terminal R. R. Y. M. C. A.

Washington City Tenpin—Pioneers vs. Arno, at Royal.

Hyattsville—Gladiators vs. Comets, at Hyattsville.

LEAGUE'S LEADERS TO PLAY TOMORROW

Central Plays Eastern and Tech Takes on Western Five at "Y."

Central plays Eastern, and Tech battles Western tomorrow in the schoolboy title games at the Y. M. C. A. The second half of the schedule will be in full swing with the double bill. In addition to the league game Gonzaga entertains the Georgetown Freshmen, while the Y. M. C. A. youngsters take on St. Albans.

Central is being picked as the real strong team in the circuit these days. While Eastern was the winner in the first encounter with Central the Capitol Hill side will probably show how to defeat tomorrow. Eastern has developed a fine passing game, and with the addition of Reed and Sweeney can be counted upon to show greater strength.

Western Prepares.

Western has been putting in a week of hard work in preparation for tomorrow's game. Business was defeated in the last engagement, and when the Stenographers turned about and defeated Tech a different aspect was put on the title race.

Tech will be without the services of Lea Varnie, according to reports. Lea Myers will probably play the left forward position. The manual trainers will probably put up a better game in their exhibition tomorrow. A comparison of the play between Tech and Central will likely be made as they are meeting next week.

Daily Is Leading.

Daily, Central's left forward, is leading the shooters in the league. The youngster has amassed 50 points for his team. Fifteen baskets from the floor and 29 free tosses have been garnered by the youngster in four games. In five battles Ralph Wise, of Business, has gotten 61 points. Wise has shot 18 baskets and has dropped 25 shots through the ring in five games. Daily is the real leader, having played fewer games than Wise.

Tabb, of Tech, in four games has shot 18 baskets and 19 free tosses, while Baldwin, of Eastern, has averaged 7 baskets in four games. Chamberlain, of Western, in five contests has a point total of 22 with no free tosses. Catlin, of Tech, has shot 12 baskets in four games, for a total of 24 points.

Totals Are Equal.

In four games Central and Technical have scored ninety-nine points each. Business has scored eighty-eight points, Western sixty-eight and Eastern fifty-eight. A comparison of teams on a scoring basis would show Tech and Central to be on a par.

With Buck Wise and Karl Glesner out of the games, Business will not be as strong. Business has played five games for a total of 106 points, and Central will have to better a mark of eighteen tomorrow to get even with Business.

There is every indication that Central will be able to gather in more than eighteen points on Eastern, although neither Technical nor Western was able to do this in their last two engagements.

May Meet Visitors.

Some of the scholastic teams may be hooked up in a post-season game or two with the St. John's team, of Manlius, N. Y. Central, Army and Navy Preps, and Tech will be approached within a week or so to see whether they care to take on the New York State champions in a game March 6.

The Army and Navy Preps have been without competition in most of their games this season, and it would be interesting to see what Central could do against Coach Clancy's team.

RELAYS FEATURED

Georgetown Meet to Have Many Races for Quartets Feb. 17.

Georgetown University will feature many relay races on February 17 at Convention Hall. Manager Ray Devlin, of the G. U. track force; John O'Reilly, and others in charge of the affair, send out an invitation to the various teams which are going to compete.

There will be special races for youngsters ninety pounds or under, 120 pounds or under, seventeen years and under, and sixteen years and under. Games may be arranged with the management.

"Get in your entries and specify the class" is the injunction at Georgetown. Incidentally there will be scales at the track, and those youngsters who have claimed weights will be asked to step on the scales just to verify their statements.

The G. U. management expects to have no trouble in getting the youngsters in line, but warns all those who have falsely represented their class.

Howard Cassell, Central's basketball captain, who has been confined in Georgetown Hospital with pneumonia, is greatly improved. Cassell has put up a same fight for life,